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L A W S
AND
REGULATIONS
OF THE
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American ✓
PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
Held at Philadelphia,
FOR PROMOTING USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

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Vide Minutes of the Society, of the 4th May, 1804.

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PHILADELPHIA:
Printed at the Office of the United States' Gazette.
1814.

TWELVE

FUNDAMENTAL LAWS.

*adduced to in Charter
altered by the By Laws P. 24*

TWO societies having formerly subsisted in Philadelphia, whose views and ends were the same, viz: "The Advancement of useful Knowledge," it was judged that their union would be of public advantage; and they were accordingly united, January 2d, 1769, by a certain fundamental agreement; the chief articles of which are,

First; That the name of the United Society shall be The American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful Knowledge.

Secondly; That there shall be the following Officers of the Society, viz. one Patron, one President, three Vice-Presidents, one Treasurer, four Secretaries, and three Curators.

Thirdly; That all the above Officers shall be chosen annually by ballot, at the first meeting of the Society in January; excepting only that instead of electing a Patron, the Governor of the Province be requested to be Patron.

Other Laws were to be made by the United Society; and accordingly the following Laws, &c. were passed February 3d, 1769.

I.—OF THE ANNUAL PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY MEMBERS.

altered Sec P. 33

Every Member of this Society shall subscribe ten shillings yearly, to be applied by the Society to such purposes as they shall direct; and no Member shall be entitled to a vote in the annual election of Officers, unless it appears that he has paid into the hands of the Treasurer, the subscription of the preceding year and all former arrears, if any there were.

Every Member hereafter to be chosen agreeably to the Law of this Society, shall pay ten shillings [Now ten dollars. See Min. of 6th Jan. 1786.] admission money, and also subscribe for the yearly payment of ten shillings [Now two dollars. See Min. of 21st Nov. 1788.] before he is entitled to have any vote in the business of the Society at their meetings.

II.—OF THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

The election of new Members shall be by ballot, and that only on the third Friday in the months of January, April, July and October; and in order to such election at least twenty [Now thirteen See Min. of 21st Nov. 1788.] Members must be present.

Any Member may, at any meeting, propose such person or persons, as he thinks proper to be a Member or Members of this Society; but no person shall be balloted for, unless his name, together with the

name or names of the Member or Members who proposed him, has been fixed up by the Secretaries for the view of the Society, at the two meetings preceeding the time of election. Nor shall any person be deemed duly chosen, unless three fourths of the votes of the whole Members be in his favour.

III.—OF THE OFFICERS AND MANNER OF THEIR ELECTION.

The election of such Officers as are to be chosen in this Society, shall be on the first Friday in January every year, by ballot or written ticket, between the hours of two and five in the afternoon, at such place in this city as shall be fixed by the Society at their previous meeting on the third Friday in December every year; of which notice shall be given in the Gazette, or such other publick papers as the Society shall order, at least one week before the day of election.

Before opening the election, the company that shall be met at half an hour after two, shall appoint three Members of the Society as Judges of the election, and also two Clerks or Secretaries, for taking down the names of the voters. And in case of an equality of votes for any Officer, after casting up the ballots, the decision shall be by lots, to be drawn by one of the Judges.

IV.—OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President is to preside at all meetings, to preserve order, to regulate the debates, and to state and

put questions, agreeably to the sense and intention of the Members.

V.—OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

In the absence of the President, his duty shall devolve on the Vice-Presidents, so that they shall preside alternately at meetings. But if the Vice-President, whose turn it is to preside at any meeting, should be absent, his place shall be supplied by any of the other Vice-Presidents, who shall be present, according as he may be next in turn. If only one Vice-President be present, he shall of course preside; and if neither the President, nor any Vice-President be present, the members met, shall appoint one of their number to take the chair for that meeting.

VI.—OF THE TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall receive the subscriptions of the Members, and all other moneys that may become due to the Society, and shall pay the same agreeably to their orders, certified to him by the President, Vice-President or Member, who was in the chair when the order was made. The Treasurer shall keep a regular account of all moneys received and paid by him as aforesaid; and once every year, or oftener if required by the Society, he shall render an account to them of the stock in his hands, and the disbursements made by their order, and shall deliver up to his successor the books and all papers belonging to them, together with the balance of cash in his hands. And

for the faithful discharge of his trust, he shall, before he enters on his office, give bond and security to the President and Vice-Presidents, in double the sum, which they, or any three of them, shall judge he may probably become entrusted with during his said Office.

VII.—OF THE SECRETARIES.

The Secretaries shall so settle matters as to take equal shares of all business, and so as that two of them shall serve at every meeting, viz. one to take minutes, and one to read all letters and papers that may be communicated to the Society. It is also the business of the two Secretaries of each particular meeting, to copy into the minute book the proceedings of that meeting, in order to produce the same fair to the next meeting. They are further to copy into the proper books, all such letters, papers and essays, as the Society may think fit to preserve on record, and to have the same ready to be laid before the next meeting.

The other two Secretaries are, in the meanwhile, to give notice to new Members of their election, and agreeably to the directions of the Society, to write or answer letters; and, in general, to manage all matters of correspondence.

The Secretaries may, for their own ease, change places; so that the two who have served as Corresponding Secretaries, for one month or limited time, shall take their turn to serve for the like time, as Sitting or Attending Secretaries.

VIII.—OF THE CURATORS.

The business of the Curators shall be to take charge of, and preserve, all specimens of natural productions, whether of the Animal, Vegetable or Fossil Kingdom; all models of Machines and Instruments, and all other matters and things, belonging to the Society, which shall be committed to them; to class and arrange them in their proper order, and keep an exact list of them, with the names of the respective donors, in a book provided for that purpose, which shall be laid before the Society, as often as called for.

The Curators, on entering upon their Office, shall give such a receipt for every thing that is committed to their charge, as the Society shall think proper; and at the end of their term, shall deliver up the same to their successors. For the faithful performance of their duty, and of the trust reposed in them, they shall give bond to the President and Vice-Presidents, in such a sum as they, or any three of them, shall require.

IX.—OF THE MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

The ordinary meetings of the Society shall be on the first and third Fridays of every month, from October to May, both inclusive, at six o'clock in the evening, and on the third Friday in each of the other four months at seven o'clock.

No meeting shall be continued after 10 o'clock, nor any new matter be introduced by motion or otherwise, after nine o'clock.

X.—OF THE DISPOSITION OF MONEY, AND MAKING NEW LAWS.

No part of the Society's stock shall be disposed of in premiums, or otherwise, nor shall any new Laws be made, until the same have been proposed at one meeting, and are agreed to by two thirds of twenty [Now thirteen. See Act of Incorporation passed 15th March 1780.] or more Members present at a subsequent meeting.

XI.—OF OTHER PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

No question shall be put on a motion, unless the motion be seconded; and the determination of any question shall be by ballot, instead of open suffrage, if desired by any four Members. In case of an equality of votes on any question, the same shall be deferred to another meeting.

When any Member speaks he shall stand up, and address himself to the chair, and the rest shall remain silent in their seats. When two or more offer to speak at the same time, the presiding Member, in that, as in other matters of order, shall regulate and determine who shall speak first.

XII.—OF COMMITTEES.

The Members of this Society shall be classed into one or more of the following Committees.

1. Geography, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and Astronomy.
2. Medicine and Anatomy.
3. Natural History and Chemistry.

4. Trade and Commerce.
5. Mechanics and Architecture.
6. Husbandry and American Improvements.

These Committees shall meet on their own adjournments, and at such other times as the Society shall appoint, for the consideration of any matters referred to them, and shall have power to choose their own chairman. But no Committee, as such, shall take up any new business of the Society, but shall confine themselves only to the subjects for which they are appointed, and to matters referred to them by the Society.

In Act

FOR INCORPORATING THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, FOR PROMOTING USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.

WHEREAS the cultivation of useful Knowledge, and the advancement of the liberal arts and sciences in any country, have the most direct tendency towards the improvement of agriculture, the enlargement of trade, the ease and comfort of life, the ornament of Society, and the increase and happiness of mankind. And whereas this country of North America, which the goodness of Providence hath given us to inherit, from the vastness of its extent, the variety of its climate, the fertility of its soil, the yet unexplored treasures of its bowels, the multitude of its rivers, lakes, bays, inlets, and other conveniences of navigation, offers to these United States one of the richest subjects of cultivation, ever presented to any people upon earth. And whereas the experience of ages shows that improvements of a public nature, are best carried on by Societies of liberal and ingenious men, uniting their labours, without regard to nation, sect or party, in one grand pursuit, alike interesting to all, whereby mutual prejudices are worn off, a humane and philosophical spirit is cherished, and youth are stimulated to a laudable diligence and emulation in the pursuit of wisdom. And whereas, upon these

principles, divers public spirited gentlemen in Pennsylvania, and other American states, did heretofore unite themselves, under certain regulations, into one voluntary Society, by the name of "The American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia for promoting useful Knowledge," and by their successful labours and investigations, to the great credit of America, have extended their reputation so far, that men of the first eminence in the republick of letters in the most civilized nations in Europe, have done honour to their publications, and desired to be enrolled among their members. And whereas the Society, after having been long interrupted in their laudable pursuits by the calamities of war, and the distresses of our country, have found means to revive their design, in hopes of being able to prosecute the same with their former success, and being further encouraged therein by the public, for which purpose they have prayed us, the representatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, that they may be created one body politick and corporate for ever, with such powers, privileges, and immunities, as may be necessary for answering the valuable purposes which the said Society had originally in view:

Wherefore, in order to encourage the said Society in the prosecution and advancement of all useful branches of knowledge, for the benefit of their country, and of mankind; be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted, by the representatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in general assembly met, and by the authority of the same, that the Members of the said American Philosophical Society heretofore voluntarily associated for promoting useful knowledge, and such other persons as have been duly elect-

ed Members and Officers of the same agreeably to the Fundamental Laws and regulations of the said Society, comprised in twelve sections, prefixed to their volume of transactions, published in Philadelphia by William and Thomas Bradford, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy one; and who shall in all respects conform themselves to the said laws and regulations, and such other laws, regulations and ordinances, as shall hereafter be duly made and enacted by the said Society, according to the tenor hercof, be, and for ever hereafter shall be one body corporate and politic indeed, by the name and style of The American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful Knowledge, and by the same name they are hereby constituted and confirmed one body corporate and politick, to have perpetual succession, and by the same name they and their successors are hereby declared and made able and capable in law, to have, hold, receive, and enjoy lands, tenements, rents, franchises, hereditaments, gifts and bequests of what nature soever, in fee-simple, or for term of life, lives, years, or otherwise, and also to give, grant, let, sell, alien, or assign the same lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattels, and premises, according to the nature of the respective gifts, grants, and bequests, made to them the said Society, and of their estate therein.

Provided, That the amount of the clear yearly value of such real estate do not exceed the value of ten thousand bushels of good merchantable wheat.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Society be, and shall be forever hereafter able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered

unto, defend and be defended, in all or any of the courts or other places, and before any judges, justices, and other person and persons, in all manner of actions, suits, complaints, pleas, causes and matters, of what nature or kind soever, within this Commonwealth; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Society, for ever hereafter to have and use one common seal in their affairs, and the same at their will and pleasure to break, change, alter and renew.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That for the well governing the said Society, and ordering their affairs, they shall have the following officers, that is to say, one Patron, who shall be his excellency the President of the Supreme Executive Council [now the Governor] of this Commonwealth, for the time being, and likewise one President, three Vice-Presidents, four Secretaries, three Curators, one Treasurer, together with a Council of twelve Members; and that on the first Friday of January next between the hours of two and five in the afternoon, as many of the Members of the said Society as shall have paid up their arrears due to the said Society, and shall declare their willingness to conform to the laws, regulations and ordinances of the Society, then duly in force, according to the tenor hereof, by subscribing the same, and who shall attend in the Hall, or place of meeting of the said Society, within the time aforesaid, shall choose by ballot, agreeably to the Fundamental Laws and regulations herein before referred to, one President, four Secretaries, three Curators, and one Treasurer, and at the same time and place, the Members met and qualified as aforesaid, shall in like manner choose four Members for the council, to hold in offices for one year, four more Members for the

Council to hold their offices for two years, and four more Members for the Council to hold their offices for three years. And on the first Friday in January, which shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty two, and so likewise on the first Friday of January, yearly and every year thereafter, between the hours of two and five in the afternoon, the Members of the said Society met and qualified as aforesaid, shall choose one President, three Vice-Presidents, four Secretaries, three Curators, and one Treasurer, to hold their respective Offices for one year; and four Councilmen, to hold their Offices for three years. Provided, That no person residing within the United States shall be capable of being President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Member of the Council, or of electing to any of the said Offices, who is not capable of electing and being elected to civil offices within the state in which he resides. Provided also, That nothing herein contained, shall be considered as intended to exclude any of the said Officers or Counsellors, whose times shall be expired, from being re-elected, according to the pleasure of the said Society; and of the day, hours, and place of all such elections, due notice shall be given by the Secretaries, or some one of them, in one or more of the public newspapers of this state, agreeably to the said Fundamental Laws and regulations before referred to.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Officers and Council of the said Society shall be capable of exercising such power for the well governing and ordering the affairs of the Society, and of holding such occasional meetings for that

purpose, as shall be described, fixed and determined by the statutes, laws, regulations and ordinances of the said Society, hereafter to be made. Provided always, That no statute, law, regulation or ordinance shall ever be made or passed by the said Society, or be binding upon the Members thereof, or any of them, unless the same hath been duly proposed, and fairly drawn up in writing at one stated meeting of the Society, and enacted or passed at a subsequent meeting at least the space of fourteen days after the former meeting, and upon due notice in some of the public newspapers, that the enacting of statutes and laws, or the making and passing ordinances and regulations, will be part of the business of such meeting; nor shall any statute, law, regulation or ordinance be then or at any time enacted or passed, unless thirteen Members of the said Society, or such greater number of Members as may be afterwards fixed by the rules of this Society be present, besides such quorum of the Officers and Council as the laws of the Society for the time being may require, and unless the same be voted by two thirds of the whole body then present; all which statutes, laws, ordinances and regulations so as aforesaid duly made, enacted and passed, shall be binding upon every Member of the said Society, and be from time to time inviolably observed, according to the tenor and effect thereof; provided they be not repugnant or contrary to the laws of this Commonwealth, for the time being in force and effect.

And whereas nations truly civilized (however unhappily at variance on other accounts) will never wage war with the arts and sciences and the common interests of humanity.

Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Society, by their proper Officers, at all times whether in peace or war, to correspond with learned Societies, as well as individual learned men, of any nation or country, upon matters merely belonging to the business of the said Society; such as the mutual communication of their discoveries and proceedings in philosophy and science; the procuring books, apparatus, natural curiosities, and such other articles and intelligence as are usually exchanged between learned bodies for furthering their common pursuits. Provided always, That such correspondence of the said Society be at all times open to the inspection of the Supreme Executive Council of this Commonwealth.

(Signed)

JOHN BAYARD,

Speaker.

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia,
on Wednesday the fifteenth day of
March, Anno Domini one thousand
seven hundred and eighty.

(Signed)

THOMAS PAINE,

Clerk of the General Assembly.

(COPY)

CONDITIONS
OF THE
MAGELLANIC PREMIUM.

MR. John Hyacinth De Magellan, in London, having some time ago offered as a donation, to the American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia for promoting useful Knowledge, the sum of two hundred guineas, to be by them vested in a secure and permanent fund, to the end that the interest arising therefrom should be annually disposed of in Premiums, to be adjudged by the Society, to the author of the best discovery, or most useful invention, relating to Navigation, Astronomy, or Natural Philosophy (mere Natural History only excepted); and the Society having accepted of the above donation, hereby publish the conditions, prescribed by the donor, and agreed to by the Society, upon which the said annual Premiums will be awarded.

1. The candidate shall send his discovery, invention, or improvement, addressed to the President, or one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, free of postage or other charges; and shall distinguish his

performance by some motto device or other signature, at his pleasure. Together with his discovery, invention, or improvement, he shall also send a sealed letter containing the same motto device or signature, and subscribed with the real name, and place of residence of the author.

2. Persons of any nation, sect, or denomination whatever, shall be admitted as candidates for this Premium.

3. No discovery, invention or improvement shall be entitled to this Premium, which hath been already published, or for which the author hath been publicly rewarded elsewhere.

4. The candidate shall communicate his discovery, invention or improvement, either in the English, French, German, or Latin language.

5. All such communications shall be publicly read, or exhibited to the Society at some stated meeting, not less than one month previous to the day of adjudication; and shall at all times be open to the inspection of such Members as shall desire it. But no Member shall carry home with him the communication, description or model, except the Officer to whom it shall be entrusted; nor shall such Officer part with the same out of his custody, without a special order of the Society for that purpose.

6. The Society having previously referred the several communications from candidates for the Premium then depending, to the consideration of the twelve Councillors and other Officers of the Society, and having received their report thereon, shall, at one of their stated meetings in the month of December, annually, after the expiration of this current year (of the time and place, together with the particular

occasion of which meeting, due notice shall be previously given, by public advertisement) proceed to final adjudication of the said Premium: and after due consideration had a vote shall first be taken on this question, viz. Whether any of the communications then under inspection be worthy of the proposed Premium. If this question be determined in the negative, the whole business shall be deferred till another year: but if in the affirmative, the Society shall proceed to determine by ballot, given by the Members at large, the discovery, invention, or improvement, most useful and worthy; and that discovery, invention, or improvement, which shall be found to have a majority of concurring votes in its favour shall be successful, and then, and not till then, the sealed letter accompanying the crowned performance shall be opened, and the name of the author announced as the person entitled to the said Premium.

7. No Member of the Society who is a candidate for the Premium then depending, or who hath not previously declared to the Society, either by word or writing, that he has considered and weighed, according to the best of his judgment, the comparative merits of the several claims then under consideration, shall sit in judgment, or give his vote in awarding the said Premium.

8. A full account of the crowned subject shall be published by the Society, as soon as may be after the adjudication, either in a separate publication, or in the next succeeding volume of their transactions, or in both.

9. The unsuccessful performances shall remain under consideration, and their authors be considered as candidates for the Premium, for five years next

succeeding the time of their presentment; except such performances as their authors may, in the mean time, think fit to withdraw. And the Society shall annually publish an abstract of the titles, object or subject matter of the communications so under consideration; such only excepted as the Society shall think not worthy of public notice.

10. The letters containing the names of authors whose performances shall be rejected, or which shall be found unsuccessful after a trial of five years, shall be burnt before the Society, without breaking the seals.

11. In case there should be a failure, in any year of any communication worthy of the proposed Premium, there will then be two Premiums to be awarded the next year. But no accumulation of Premiums shall entitle the author to more than one Premium for any one discovery, invention or improvement.

12. The Premium shall consist of an oval plate of solid standard gold, of the value of ten guineas; on one side thereof shall be neatly engraved a short Latin motto suited to the occasion, together with the words; The Premium of John Hyacinth de Magellan, of London, established in the year 1786; and on the other side of the plate shall be engraved these words; Awarded by the A. P. S. for the discovery of ———
A. D.

And the Seal of the Society shall be annexed to the Medal by a ribbon passing through a small hole at the lower edge thereof.

ADDITIONAL RESOLVE

Relative to the Magellanic Extra Fund. Adopted by the American Philosophical Society, after giving legal notice to the Members; October 19, 1804.

RESOLVED, That the Surplus Fund arising from the Magellanic Donation, that is, the interest accruing therefrom over and above the ten guineas a year, be employed in the first instance, according to the strict conditions of the donation, if a sufficient number of deserving candidates shall have applied for the same; otherwise that such surplus, or so much thereof as cannot be applied as above, be awarded by the Society (at such times, and under such regulations, as they shall adopt) to the authors of useful inventions or improvements on any subjects, within the general view of the Magellanic Donation, and that the Premium thus to be awarded shall be expressly declared to be from the surplus of the Magellanic Fund.

REGULATIONS

RESPECTING THE SURPLUS MAGELLANIC
PREMIUM.

1. THE Surplus Magellanic Premium may be awarded at such stated meeting of the Society as shall be agreed to, at a previous stated meeting, due notice being given thereof to the Members.
2. Every communication which shall have been offered with a view to the Magellanic Premium and

to which the same shall not have been awarded, shall, (except such as the Society shall not think at all worthy of notice) be again taken into consideration with a view to the awarding of the Surplus Premium, and if such communication shall, at such meeting be thought within the general view of the Donation and to be sufficiently valuable to deserve a public reward, a Surplus Premium may be awarded to the author thereof.

3. The Surplus Premium shall consist of a gold medal of the value of not less than twenty dollars nor more than forty five dollars, engraved with a similar device to that of the original Premium, except that it shall contain the words "Extra Magellanic Premium," or at the option of the successful candidate the value of such Medal in money accompanied with a diploma on parchment, with the seal of the Society.

4. All the rules and regulations concerning the application for the awarding the original Magellanic Premium shall be adhered to in the case of the Surplus Premium, in so far as they are not hereby modified, or derogated from; unless in very special cases for the rewarding of some essentially useful discovery or improvement, two thirds of the Members of the Society present at a meeting appointed for the awarding of the Surplus Magellanic Premium, shall, by their votes, taken by ballot or otherwise, direct.

5. The Society shall propose and publish as often as they think proper such a number of subjects as they shall think fit, to which they shall call the attention of the candidates for the original and Surplus Magellanic Premiums, and invite their communications thereon; informing them at the same time that although communications on such subjects will be acceptable

to the Society, yet they shall not entitle their authors to a preference over more meritorious communications on other subjects, equally within the strict or general view (as the case may be) of the Magellanic Donation.

6. Your committee are further of opinion that the Surplus Premium ought not to be exclusively applied to actual inventions or improvements, but may also extend to such valuable communications within the general view of the donation, as may lead to useful discoveries, inventions or improvements, and that they therefore recommend the resolution of the 19th October, with a view to altering it accordingly.

Philadelphia, 5th December, 1804.

The By-Laws

OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
HELD AT PHILADELPHIA FOR PROMOTING USE-
FUL KNOWLEDGE.

Enacted into Laws on the fourth of May, 1804, and extracted
from the Minutes of the Society.

SECTION I.

Rules respecting the order of Business at Ordinary stated
Meetings of the Society.

THE President, one of the Vice-Presidents, or in their absence, the Chairman chosen by the Society to preside during the meeting, shall take the chair, and call the Society to order, within one hour at most after the time appointed for the meeting of the Society. The ordinary business of the Society shall then, as nearly as circumstances may admit, proceed in the following order:

1. *The Recording Secretary* shall read the Minutes of the last stated meeting, and also of any subsequent special meeting if such have occurred.

2. *Committees* appointed at former meetings shall be called upon to make their reports, which may then be adopted, rejected, amended, recommitted, or the

consideration thereof postponed, as the Society shall determine.

3. *Donations* will be received, and the thanks of the Society returned to the donor if present by the presiding Member; but if absent in a letter signed by one of the Secretaries.

4 Letters, Papers or Communications will be received by the presiding Member, and read by one of the Secretaries. Every communication which may be considered as intended for a place in our transactions shall immediately be referred to a committee to consider and report thereon, and the receipt of the paper if the author be not a resident Member shall be acknowledged in a letter signed by one of the Secretaries.

5. Communications or remarks, whether verbal or in writing (though the latter will always be preferred) which may not be intended by their authors for publication in our transactions, will be received and recorded or transcribed by one of the Secretaries in a book to be provided and kept for that purpose.

6. Any other business not comprehended under any of the foregoing heads may by motion be brought before the Society and discussed.

7. The rough minutes of the present meeting shall be read by the Recording Secretary, and if necessary corrected by the Society, and then, or before the next meeting of the Society transcribed into their book of minutes.

8. The Society shall be adjourned by the presiding Member.

SECTION II.

Rules respecting the Election of Members and other Periodical Business of the Society.

1. At the meetings of the Society when new Members are to be elected, the names of the candidates (being attached to the ballot boxes) shall be severally announced by the presiding Member. Previous to the balloting for any candidate one of the Members who proposed him, or any other Member, may for the information of the Society speak to his character and qualifications as a Member of the Society. The Recording Secretary shall then call over the names of the Members present in the order in which they are inserted in the Minutes, and in this order they shall ballot for the several candidates in succession. A white ball being considered as in favour of the candidate, and a black one as the contrary. The balloting being gone through the boxes shall be opened, and the state of the poll declared by the presiding Member; but not till all the other business of the meeting shall be discussed. No candidate shall be balloted for if none of the Members proposing him be present; but his election shall be postponed till the next stated period, unless the Society shall at the time determine otherwise. No gentleman whose election has been twice postponed shall be any longer considered as a candidate without a new nomination. It is strictly enjoined on all the Members not to mention out of the Society the names of any of the candidates proposed, nor of any unsuccessful candidate, and the paper containing the names of the candidates balloted for shall be destroyed immediately after the election.

2. Previous to the election of an Orator or person to deliver an address, a nomination shall be made by any Members of the Society at the Stated Meeting immediately preceding, and out of this nomination the Orator or person to deliver the address shall be chosen by ballot.

SECTION III.

Rules respecting the Advertisement of Meetings, &c.

1. Every Meeting of the Society, and of the Officers of the Society, shall be advertised in at least two of the daily newspapers of the city, if it can be done without any expense to the Society, on the day previous to the time of meeting, and a notification shall be sent to each resident Member on the day immediately preceding that of the meeting.

2. Immediately after the meetings on the third Friday of January, April, July, and October respectively, a complete list of all the Donations and Communications made to the Society, with the names of the donors or authors, as also of the new Members elected within the last three months, shall be published in at least two of the newspapers and magazines of the city, if without any expense to the Society.

SECTION IV.

Rules respecting the Appointment and Duties of a Librarian.

A Member of the Society, or some other suitable person, shall be chosen by the Society on the third Friday of May next, and on the third Friday of Janu-

ary annually hereafter, as Librarian of the Society, with a salary of two hundred dollars per annum, who shall perform the following duties.

1. He shall have the custody and care of the Books and Papers belonging to the Society, which he shall dispose and arrange in such a manner as shall be judged most convenient, and shall keep an arranged list of such papers. He shall assist the Curators in arranging and preserving all the subjects of Natural History with the Models of Machines, Instruments, Medals, and all the other articles belonging to the Museum of the Society, making a complete list thereof for the Society.

2. He shall advertise the meetings of the Society, and of the Officers of the Society; shall employ a person to notify the Members individually, and shall publish quarterly the list of Donations, Communications, and of new Members as directed in Section III.

3. He shall attend at the stated meetings of the Society, and shall then, or at any such time as he may think proper, lend out to any resident Member of the Society any Books belonging to the Library, except the last volumes and loose numbers of the different Journals imported by the Society, and except recent donations made to the Society, which shall not be lent out; taking from each Member borrowing a Book an obligation with a sufficient penalty to return the same uninjured at or before the next stated meeting of the Society, if in the months of June, July, August or September; but at or before the second stated meeting, if in any of the other eight months of the year; subject to a fine of fifty cents for every stated meeting that shall occur after the limited period before he re-

turns the Book, and a forfeiture of double the value of the Book or of the set of which it is one if not returned in six months after being borrowed. The moncys arising from fines and forfeitures to be exclusively appropriated towards the binding and purchase of Books for the Library.

4. He shall attend at the Hall of the Society every Friday evening, on which no meeting of the Society or of the Officers of the Society shall be held, from seven o'clock to nine; at which time any Member of the Society may also attend for the purpose of reading, social conversation, or making experiments, and may if he think proper bring a friend with him.

5. He shall with the approbation of the Society contract for and shall also superintend the printing of the Transactions of the Society, free of any or with as little expense to the Society as possible; and in the discharge of this duty it shall be considered as incumbent on every Member of the Society, when desired, to render him all the aid in his power. The Transactions of the Society shall in future be published annually; and after the completion of the sixth volume, the first part of which is now in the press, they shall be printed in an octavo form, commencing a new series. The publication shall be made as early as possible after the commencement of the year, and shall consist of such papers then in the custody of the Librarian as shall have received the sanction of the Society, and such extracts from the Book of "Verbal Communications" as shall be recommended by the committee chosen for that purpose and approved of by the Society, together with a list of the Officers of the Society for the time being, a list of the new Mem-

bers elected since the publication of the preceding volume, a list of the Donations made to the Society, and such other articles as the Society may from time to time direct.

SECTION V.

Rules respecting the Meeting and Business of the Officers of the Society.

1. The Counsellors and other Officers of the Society shall hold stated meetings on the second Friday of February, May, August and November respectively, at the same hours in the evening at which the stated meetings of the Society are appointed to be held in the same months, and such other occasional or special meetings as they may judge proper; and shall keep regular minutes of their proceedings to be laid before the Society at their stated meetings on the third Fridays of the same months respectively.

2. They shall from time to time lay before the Society such measures as they may judge will conduce to the well governing and ordering the affairs of the Society, or to promote the objects of their institution; particularly they shall recommend subjects for premiums to be offered by the Society, with the conditions on which they shall be awarded.

3. To them shall be referred all communications from candidates for premiums, whether the Magellanic or those offered by the Society, on which they shall make reports without any unnecessary delay.

4. Seven Members shall be a quorum competent to any of the above duties.

SECTION VI.

Of the Appointment and Duties of Committees.

1. No Committee appointed on any subject of deliberation shall consist of less than three Members; but any other matter may be committed to a single Member. A majority of any committee shall be a quorum.

2. All committees shall be chosen by the Society on a nomination previously made and seconded, the question being then put on each Member separately; but no Member of the Society shall either nominate or second the nomination of more than one Member of any committee.

3. The Member first elected of any committee shall be the chairman, and considered as responsible for the discharge of the duties enjoined on the committee.

4. When any committee is appointed, the time at which they are to make their report shall be also appointed by the Society; and on the failure of the committee making a final report at this time, unless a satisfactory reason for their delay be given, they shall be discharged and the matter dropped or referred to another committee, as the Society shall then determine.

5. All reports shall be in writing and signed by all the Members agreeing thereto.

6. The committee to whom shall be referred any communication which may be considered as intended for a place in our Transactions, shall report their opinion, and if this be in favour of publication they shall make such corrections as they may judge necessary

to fit it for the press. And if they shall judge the publication of an abstract or extracts from the paper would be most eligible, they shall accompany their report with such abstract or extracts. The author however in the above cases shall be consulted if convenient before the paper is printed.

7. When any committee is appointed the Librarian shall enter in a book to be provided and kept for that purpose, and divided into proper columns, the names of the committees, the time of their appointment, the matter or business committed to them, and the time at which they are to report, and when the final report is made the time shall be entered in an adjoining column.

SECTION VII.

Rules respecting the Annual Contributions, and the Sums to be paid by new Members on their admission.

1. The Contribution of Members resident in the city or within ten miles thereof, shall be ~~two~~ dollars per annum, payable on the first Friday of January at the time of the annual election of Officers; and the sum to be paid by every new Member on his admission into the Society or receiving a certificate of membership shall be ten dollars. Members however residing in foreign countries shall be exempted from this payment.

2. No Member in arrears, either for his admission money or annual payments, shall be eligible to any Office or be entitled to vote on any question in the Society.

3. No Member who shall be in arrear to the Society for two or more annual payments, or who residing

in Philadelphia has neglected to attend their meetings for one whole year, shall any longer receive notification of the meetings of the Society, nor be eligible to any office in the same.

SECTION VIII.

General Rules relating to Order, &c. in the Society.

1. No debate shall ever take place in the Society, but on motion duly made and seconded, and afterwards stated by the presiding Member.

2. When a Member speaks he shall stand up, addressing himself to the presiding Member; and, avoiding desultory remarks, he shall confine himself strictly to the merits of the question under consideration.

3. No Member while speaking shall be interrupted unless by the presiding Member, when he shall think fit to call him to order or to admonish him to a closer adherence to the question under discussion.

4. When a Member speaking is called to order he shall instantly sit down or appeal from the call to the Society, who shall determine without debate.

5. No Member shall speak more than twice to the same question, without previously asking and obtaining leave of the Society.

6. Whilst any question or motion is under debate no other motion shall be admitted, unless to divide the question, to amend, to postpone, or to adjourn.

7. No motion to reconsider a former resolution can be made or seconded except by a Member who voted in favour of said resolution.

8. No motion under discussion can be withdrawn without the consent of the Society.

9. No motion for adjournment shall be carried, unless by the unanimous vote of the Society, before nine o'clock in the evening, and shall at all times be determined without debate.

10. The presiding Member shall have no vote unless in the case of a tie or equality of votes among the other Members, where the Act of Incorporation or Fundamental Rules require more than a bare majority of the Members present, or where the vote is taken by ballot.

11. Thirteen shall be a quorum competent to the awarding of Premiums proposed by the Society and the election of new Members. In all cases, not otherwise provided for by the Constitution or other regulations of the Society, the Members attending shall be a quorum, and a majority of votes shall decide.

12. A book shall be provided and kept by the Librarian containing the names of all the Members resident in Philadelphia, arranged in alphabetical order, with a number of adjoining columns equal to all the stated and special meetings in the year, and at every meeting the said Librarian shall opposite the name of every present Member and in the proper column insert the letter P. This book shall always lie on the table, so that the Society may at all times know the number and names of their resident Members, and the state of their attendance.

13. These Bye-laws, together with the Act of Incorporation, the Twelve Sections of Fundamental Laws referred to in that act, all the other Acts of the Legislature relative to the Society, the Rules and Conditions relative to the Magellanic Premium, and all other Bye-laws, Rules or Regulations of a general nature, that may hereafter be made by the Society, shall

under the direction of the Librarian be transcribed into a separate book to be provided and kept for that purpose, which book shall lie on the table at every meeting of the Society.

14. All the Bye-laws heretofore made by the Society and all other Rules or Regulations other than those referred to in the above article, are repealed.